

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing an airtight container having a space in which a pressure is lower than an outside pressure, between opposing first and second substrates, comprising steps of:

assembling the container having a space between the first substrate on which an electrode is disposed on a surface to be facing the space and the second substrate which has a structure for supplying a potential to the electrode; and

applying a pressure difference between inside and outside of the container assembled in the assembling step,

wherein in the container before the applying step, the structure has a concave portion which is opened to an external atmosphere at a through-hole penetrating the second substrate and closed at a bottom of the concave portion, having electrical conductivity, and wherein the pressure difference is brought in the applying step to elongate lengths of the structure in a direction in which the first and second substrates are opposed to each other, whereby the structure is formed in a shape to enable supplying of a potential to the electrode through the bottom of the structure.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein a portion of the structure to be brought into direct or indirect contact with the electrode and a portion of the structure to be deformed are formed by bending one plate member.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the portion of the structure to be brought into direct or indirect contact with the electrode, the portion of the structure to be deformed, and the portion of the structure bonded to the second substrate are formed by bending one plate member.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) A method for manufacturing an image display apparatus, comprising the steps of:

manufacturing the airtight container according to the method of claim 1; and providing an image display device inside of the airtight container.

8. - 12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) ~~The method according to claim 1, A method for manufacturing an airtight container having a space in which a pressure is lower than an outside pressure, between opposing first and second substrates, comprising steps of:~~

assembling the container having a space between the first substrate on which an electrode is disposed on a surface to be facing the space and the second substrate which has a structure for supplying a potential to the electrode; and  
applying a pressure difference between inside and outside of the container assembled in the assembling step,

wherein in the container before the applying step, the structure has a concave portion which is opened to an external atmosphere at a through-hole penetrating the second substrate and closed at a bottom of the concave portion, having electrical conductivity, and wherein the pressure difference is brought in the applying step to elongate lengths of the structure in a direction in which the first and second substrates are opposed to each other, whereby the structure is formed in a shape to enable supplying of a potential to the electrode through the structure,

wherein by bringing said pressure difference, said bottom of the concave portion is brought directly into contact with said electrode, said bottom of the concave portion is brought into contact with said electrode through a metal being more pliable than said electrode, or said bottom of the concave portion is brought into contact with said electrode through a conductive adhesive.